(iv) The situation is being closely monitored for ensuring expeditious restoration of port facilities at Kandla. Most of the POL handling facilities at Kandla have already been restored, except LPG. Major distribution channel from Kandla, namely, Kandla-Bhatinda Pipeline, has become fully operational and rail and road dispatch has also commenced ex-Kandla.

(v) Augmentation of LPG imports at Mangalore.

(vi) Augmentation of imports of POL products through other ports.

(vii) Pegging per capita LPG consumption at last year's average.

(viii) The Railways have been requested to accord white hot priority for movement of LPG rakes ex-Mumbai and Uran to North-West.

(b) Pumping in Kandla-Bhatinda Pipeline started on 22.6.1998 and normal pumping was resumed on 23.6.1998.

Conversion of Eastern Regional Division of ONGC Into Subsidiary Company

3328. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government are considering conversion of Eastern regional division of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation into a 100 per cent subsidiary company of ONGC with a separate Board of Directors;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Production and Projected availability of Gas in Assam

3329. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to State:

(a) the gap between actual production of gas from ONGC fields in Assam in 1998 and projected availability in 1998 as projected in 1987 and 1990 as per Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas's record;

(b) the details fo existing units and projects in the State affected by the shortfall in projected availability of gas;

(c) the extent of adverse impact of shortfall of gas on sanctioned capacity of different units; and

(d) the manner in which the said adverse impact on existing units and proposed projects is proposed to be handled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) The gap between the actual production of gas from ONGC fields in Assam in 1998 and availability for 1998 as projected in 1990 is one million standard cubic meters per day (MMSCMD).

(b) and (c) The current requirement of the existing consumers in Assam is being met. However, there could be a shortfall when these consumers would be in a position to draw gas to the full extent of their allocation.

(d) ONGC has been directed to step up its exploration efforts in Assam.

मथुरा तेल शोधक कारखाने का विस्तार

3330. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मथुरा तेल शोधक कारखाने का विस्तार किया गया है;

(ख) क्या इस विस्तार के लिए संसद की स्वीकृति प्राप्त हो गयी है;